Amendments to the claims:

1.   (Previously Presented)   In a computer system, a method comprising:

receiving pen input in an input area of a digitizer;

processing, in a software program that is running while an application program is

awaiting input, the pen input for conversion into a key event; and

providing the key event from the software program to the application program, the

application program separate from the software program such that the application program

receives the key event without processing the pen input.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the key event corresponds to a

character.

3.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the key event

corresponds to a gesture that is not an alphanumeric character.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the pen input comprises a single

stroke.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the pen input comprises at least

two strokes.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein processing the pen input includes calling a recognizer.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising, detecting ~~the~~ an end of the pen input.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 7 wherein detecting the end of the pen input includes detecting a pen up event.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 7 wherein detecting the end of the pen input includes detecting that pen input has stopped for a period of time.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 7 wherein detecting the end of the pen input includes detecting a particular pen action.

11.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, which when executed perform steps, comprising:

handling pen input data in a first software program to receive a recognition result in the form of a key event; and

providing the key event from the first software program to a second software program, the second software ~~application~~ program separate from the first software program such that the second program is provided with the key event without having handled the pen input.

12.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the key event corresponds to a gesture that is not an alphanumeric character.

13.   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the pen input comprises a single stroke.

14   (Previously Presented)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the pen input comprises at least two strokes.

15.   (Currently Amended) In a computing environment, a system, comprising:

means for handling pen input data in a first software program to receive a recognition result in the form of a key event; and

means for providing the key event from the first software program to a second software program, the second software ~~application~~ program separate from the first software program such that the second program is provided with the key event without requiring means for handling the pen input.

16.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 15 wherein the key event corresponds to a gesture.

17.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 15 wherein the pen input comprises a single stroke.

18   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 15 wherein the pen input comprises at least two strokes.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 further comprising, means for detecting ~~the~~ <u>an</u> end of the pen input.

20.   (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 15 wherein the means for detecting the end of the pen input includes at least one of: means for detecting a pen up event, means for detecting that pen input has stopped for a period of time, and means for detecting a particular pen action.